

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the present application, irrespective of whether the claim(s) remains under examination in the application are presented below. The claims are presented in ascending order and each includes one status identifier. Those claims not cancelled or withdrawn but amended by the current amendment utilize the following notations for amendment: 1. deleted matter is shown by strikethrough for six or more characters and double brackets for five or less characters; and 2. added matter is shown by underlining.

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Currently amended) A method for the spectrophotometric analysis of a liquid comprising ~~the following steps:~~

taking a sample of a liquid to be analysed wherein the liquid is wine, grape must or fermenting must; ~~is taken, and~~

~~it is conveyed~~ conveying the sample into an analysis cell of a means of spectrophotometric analysis;

~~a continuous spectrum is emitted with the analysis means in the infrared through the sample presented,~~

measuring an infrared absorbance spectrum ~~obtained after passage through of the sample is measured, ;~~

correlating spectroscopic criteria and the absorbance spectrum using a mathematical processing means, ~~spectroscopic criteria and absorbance spectrum are correlated so as to determine concentration levels of different constituents of this liquid to be analysed, the sample; and~~

wherein

automatically determining concentration levels of specific constituents of the wine, grape must, or fermenting must by a record of spectroscopic criteria in a memory of the mathematical processing means. ~~a recording is made of the spectroscopic criteria by which it is possible to automatically determine at least concentration levels of specific constituents of the wine, and/or grape musts and/or fermenting musts, for example:~~

~~concentration of gluconic acid revealing the presence of a first microbiological agent, and/or~~

~~concentration of acetaldehyde and/or ethyl acetate revealing the presence of a second microbiological agent, and/or~~

~~concentration of acetic acid and/or ethyl acetate revealing the presence of a third microbiological agent, and/or~~

~~concentration of lactic acid revealing the presence of a fourth microbiological agent.~~

10. (Original) A method according to claim 9 wherein the analysed liquid is discharged into a waste receptacle.

11. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 9 wherein the automatically determined concentration levels of the ~~components~~ constituents of the sample are displayed on a computer screen or printed.

12. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 9 ~~wherein~~ further comprising creating a quality index ~~is created~~ from the results of the mathematical processing means, whereby ~~to this end~~, the concentration levels of the constituents to be considered in this index are selected, and each of these concentration levels is assigned ~~a scale of~~ points as a function of the value of the concentration.

13. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 9 ~~wherein~~ further comprising: ~~the sample is taken~~ conveying the sample into a second analysis cell of a second means of spectrophotometric analysis;

~~a continuous spectrum is emitted with the analysis means in the infrared and the visible domains through the sample presented,~~

measuring an infrared and visible light absorbance spectrum obtained of after passage through the sample; is measured, and

correlating spectroscopic criteria and the absorbance spectrum using the mathematical processing means, ~~spectroscopic criteria and absorbance spectrum are correlated so as to determine concentration levels of different constituents of this liquid to be analysed, the sample.~~

14. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 9 ~~wherein the first microbiological agent is *Botrytis cinerea* and wherein~~ further comprising:

making a recording is made, in a memory of the mathematical processing means, of the results of the evaluation of the absorbance spectrum producing spectroscopic criteria enabling the automatic determining of the concentration levels of specific constituents of the sample, wherein the constituents are gluconic acid, mannitol, and/or sorbitol, or combinations of the three constituents; ~~present in the liquid in order to reveal it. and~~

correlating the results of the analysis such that the presence of gluconic acid, mannitol, sorbitol or combinations of the three constituents, indicates the presence of a first microbiological agent that can produce gluconic acid, mannitol and sorbitol.

15. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 9, further comprising ~~wherein the~~

~~second microbiological agent consists of yeasts, and wherein~~

~~making a recording is made, in a memory of the mathematical processing means,~~
of the spectroscopic criteria enabling the automatic ~~determining~~ determination of
concentration levels of specific constituents of the sample, wherein the constituents are in
acetaldehyde, ethyl acetate, arabitol, 2,3-butanediol, methyl-3-butanol-1, glycerol, and/or
isoamyl acetate present in the liquid, in order to reveal them or any combination thereof;
and

correlating the results of the analysis such that the presence of acetaldehyde, ethyl
acetate, arabitol, 2,3-butanediol, methyl-3-butanol-1, glycerol, isoamyl acetate or any
combination thereof, indicates the presence of a second microbiological agent that can
produce acetaldehyde, ethyl acetate, arabitol, 2,3-butanediol, methyl-3-butanol-1,
glycerol, isoamyl acetate or any combination thereof.

16. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 9, ~~wherein the third microbiological~~
~~agent consists of acetic bacteria, and wherein further comprising;~~

~~making a recording is made, in the memory of the mathematical processing~~
~~means, of the spectroscopic criteria enabling the automatic determining~~ determination of
concentration levels of specific constituents of the sample, wherein the constituent is
acetic acid, ethyl acetate, 2,3-butanediol or combinations thereof present in the liquid, in
order to reveal it; and

correlating the results of the analysis such that the presence of acetic acid, ethyl
acetate, 2,3-butanediol, or combinations thereof, indicates the presence of a third

microbiological agent that can produce acetic acid, ethyl acetate, 2,3-butanediol or any combination thereof.

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Cancelled)

22. (Cancelled)

23. (Cancelled)

24. (Cancelled)

25. (Cancelled)

26. (Cancelled)

27. (Cancelled)

28. (Cancelled)

29. (Cancelled)

30. (Cancelled)

31. (Cancelled)

32. (Cancelled)

33. A method according to claim 9, ~~wherein the fourth microbiological agent consists of lactic bacteria, and wherein~~ further comprising;

making a recording is made, in the memory of the mathematical processing means, of the spectroscopic criteria enabling the automatic determining determination of concentration levels of specific constituents of the sample, wherein the constituents are lactic acid, mannitol, and/or 2,3-butanediol, or any combination thereof present in the liquid, in order to reveal them; and

correlating the results of the analysis such that the presence of lactic acid, mannitol, 2,3-butanediol, or combinations thereof, indicates the presence of a fourth microbiological agent that can produce lactic acid, mannitol, 2,3-butanediol, or any combination thereof.

34. (Cancelled)

35. (New) The method of claim 14 wherein a first microbiological agent comprises *Botrytic cinerea*.
36. (New) The method of claim 15 wherein a second microbiological agent comprises yeasts.
37. (New) The method according to claim 16 wherein a third microbiological agent comprises acetic bacteria.
38. (New) The method according to claim 17 wherein a fourth microbiological agent comprises lactic bacteria.